

Imagine . . .

. . Your medical record being computerized, comprehensive and maintained for life

. . Always having your medical record available at each clinic visit

. . . A decrease in medical errors, improving your disease management

. . . Being automatically reminded of your upcoming preventive evaluations

. . . Never waiting for your medical or dental record to be found

. . . Always being able to read your medical documents

. . Your medical information securely stored with restricted and monitored access

. . . Your entire medical record available to any military emergency room staff in the world



As a reminder, our appointment line number is 785-239-DOCS (3627). As before, you may still have 24-hour access to our Nurse Advice Line by dialing that number as well.

Thank you for your patience and understanding. We remain committed to provide you and your family the best possible medical care.



GLOBAL INFORMATION
for **QUALITY CARE**

formerly . . .



January 2006

Irwin Army Community Hospital

On January 24 the staff of Irwin Army Community Hospital will begin training on a new computer system that will ultimately lead to the replacement of the old, paper, medical record. The system, advertised and known previously as the Composite Health Care System II (CHCS II) has been given a new name. Now called the Armed Forces Health Longitudinal Technology Application (AHLTA), will lead us from paper to computer-based medical records.

This new record is an automated, permanent, life-long computerized record that will contain your past health history, current health status and health planning recommendations. Over several years it will be installed in all military treatment facilities, both stateside and overseas. Even deployed locations will use AHLTA.



***Irwin Army
Community
Hospital***

***600 Caisson Hill Road
Fort Riley, KS 66442
Information: 785-239-7000/7667***

AHLTA Advantages

Once *fully implemented worldwide*, the AHLTA system will offer numerous benefits to military beneficiaries wherever they may be.

- Every visit will be instantly recorded in your electronic record and that information will be available throughout the medical facility and everywhere else in the military healthcare system that has AHLTA.
- All laboratory, radiology and pharmacy orders will be sent immediately to the appropriate department and test results will be permanently recorded in your record, saving time and reducing the need for repeat procedures.
- You will never need to worry about a medical record being lost again. It cannot be misplaced or misfiled.
- The record will be available at any military medical treatment facility worldwide. You will never have to hand-carry your record to a new duty location and if you need medical care at a military treatment facility en route, it will be there.
- Your record will always be up to date and legible.
- The system will alert your provider about possible allergies and prescribed medication interactions.

Such transformations do not come easily. Your clinic team will need to learn a new way of conducting business and that takes time. Your clinic staff will be spending a half-day in training on this system for a full week. As they start using the system, and until completely up to speed, they will be working at a slower rate. However, these efficiencies will increase daily as they become more familiar with the system.

What this means is that during the training time, your provider will have fewer available appointments to see you. However, only 20% of the medical group staff will be training at any given time. This means that while your provider is undergoing training, other providers who have not yet started training, or who have returned to their normal schedule may be available to see you. If there still are not any appointments available, our extended network of civilian healthcare providers will be available and have the capacity to ensure that all who need care will receive it. We antici-



Learning the system takes time; but the reward far outweighs the temporary inconvenience. Our long-term goal—to make your healthcare information accessible immediately when it is needed.

pate that the entire medical group will be fully trained and back to their normal working schedules by the end of May 2006.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: I am concerned about the security of my medical information. If it is a computer and can be read at any military treatment facility, who will be able to see it?

A: Your information is password protected, which ensures that only authorized people, those with a “need to know”, will have access to your information.

Q: What if I move to a base that has not started using AHLTA yet?

A: Until AHLTA is implemented everywhere, we will still be maintaining a printed copy of your record. All the information will be stored in the AHLTA central repository, but will also be printed out in your record and can be taken with you to a new assignment if needed.

Q: I am still worried about getting appointments during this time. What can I expect?

A: Always call the clinic appointment line first. If there are no appointments available, authorization can be made for a visit with one of our off-post network providers.